

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
SILSDEN

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1948

By M. HUNTER, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

SKIPTON :

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1949

Urban District of Silsden.

Health Committee : **THE WHOLE COUNCIL.**

Chairman : G. W. SMITH, Esq., J.P.

Staff of the Department:

Medical Officer of Health and
Divisional Medical Officer ... M. HUNTER, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector ... W. MITCHELL, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk ... Mrs. P. HEATON.

West Riding County Council Staff Working in the District:

Assistant County Medical
Officer ... R. J. GOURLAY, M.D., D.P.H.
(resigned 31st May, 1948)

H. O. M. BRYANT, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.
(resigned 31st Dec., 1948)

Area Dental Officer ... O. A. LONG, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officer ... H. D. CAWTHRA, L.D.S.

Health Visitor and School
Nurse ... Miss E. GROGAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.,

Home Nurse and Midwife ... Miss C. HERBERT, S.C.M., S.R.N.

Tuberculosis Visitor ... Miss M. WILLIAMS, S.R.N., H.V.,
C. R. S. I.

Social Worker (Mental Health) Miss H. WALLACE.

(Venereal Disease) Miss E. M. SENIOR

Social Worker

Duly Authorised Officer ... Mr. J. W. KIRKBRIGHT.

Divisional Health Office,

19a, High Street,

Skipton.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Silsden Urban District Council.*

I have pleasure in presenting to you the report for the year 1948, a year which has shown many changes in the administrative structure of the local and national health services.

The local changes involved the appointment of a whole-time Medical Officer of Health to the Urban districts of Silsden, Earby, Barnoldswick and Skipton, and the Rural district of Skipton; the appointment being combined with that of Divisional Medical Officer to the West Riding County Council. This has permitted a closer integration of the services provided by the Local Authority and the Local Health Authority (the County Council) and has enabled me to compile a full report on the health, and the health services in the district.

The report shows that the health of the district was generally satisfactory, the death-rate and infantile mortality rate being below average. Scarlet fever was more prevalent than usual, but the measles and whooping cough outbreaks did not reach epidemic proportions.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman, and Members, the Clerk and other Officials, and the Staff of the Department for their kindness and courteous assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

M. HUNTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Section A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area of the Urban District	...	...	...	7,101 acres
Estimated population	...	...	...	5,858
Population at 1931 Census	...	...	...	4,906
Number of Inhabited Houses (estimated)	...	...	...	1,780
Rateable Value for General Rate	...	...	£28,695	0 0
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£112	0 0

BIRTHS.

					Total	Male	Female
Live, Legitimate	...	...	...	...	85	46	39
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	6	3	3
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total	...	91	49	42
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Still, Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total	...	1	—	1
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total Births	...	92	49	43
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

BIRTH RATES.

							1948
Live Births (per 1,000 estimated population)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15·5
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10·86

DEATH RATES.

(crude)

(per 1,000 estimated population).

							1948
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	9·6
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·17
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·02
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4·95

DIARRHOEA.

(Deaths of infants under 2 years per 1,000 live births).

							1948
Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

(per 1,000 live and still births).

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

**Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality,
Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for certain Infectious
Diseases in the year 1948.**

		England and Wales.	126 C.B.'s. and great Towns, in- cluding London.	148 smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000— 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.	Silsden Urban District.
RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.						
Births :						
Live Births	...	17.9 (a)	20.0	19.2	20.1	15.5
Still Births	...	0.42 (a)	0.52	0.43	0.39	0.17
Deaths :						
All Causes	... ..	10.8 (a)	11.6	10.7	11.6	9.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17
Whooping Cough	... ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	Nil
Diphtheria	... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	Nil
Tuberculosis	... ..	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63	Nil
Influenza	... ..	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02	Nil
Smallpox	... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	Nil
Pneumonia	... ..	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54	0.41
Notifications (corrected) :						
Typhoid Fever	... ..	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	—
Paratyphoid Fever	... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	... ..	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	—
Scarlet Fever	... ..	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37	7.85
Whooping Cough	... ..	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13	6.31
Diphtheria	... ..	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.17
Erysipelas	... ..	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22	0.17
Smallpox	... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	... ..	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17	9.38
Pneumonia	... ..	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57	0.51
Acute Poliomyelitis	... ..	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—

RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Deaths :						
All causes under one year of age	... ..	34 (b)	39	32	31	22
Enteritis & Diarrhoea under two years of age	... ..	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4	Nil

RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL (LIVE AND STILL) BIRTHS.

Notifications (corrected):						
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	... ..	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34 (c)	Nil

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

(c) In London, Puerperal Fever alone was 0.61.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

	England and Wales.	Silsden.
Abortion with sepsis ...	0·11	Nil
Abortion with sepsis ...	0·05	Nil
Puerperal infections ...	0·13	Nil
Other maternal causes ...	0·73	Nil

Causes of Death.

DISEASE.	Males	Females	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	1	1
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	—	—	—
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—
8. Syphilitic Diseases ...	—	—	—
9. Influenza ...	—	—	—
10. Measles ...	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis ...	—	—	—
12. Acute infective Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus (M) and uterus (F)...	—	1	1
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1	1
15. Cancer of breast ...	—	1	1
16. Cancer of all other sites ...	2	1	3
17. Diabetes ...	—	1	1
18. Intracranial vascular lesions ...	5	1	6
19. Heart diseases ...	13	15	28
20. Other diseases of circulatory system ...	1	—	1
21. Bronchitis ...	1	—	1
22. Pneumonia ...	—	—	—
23. Other respiratory diseases ...	—	—	—
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	1	—	1
25. Diarrhoea, under 2 years ...	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis ...	—	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases ...	1	1	2
28. Nephritis ...	—	1	1
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis ...	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes ...	—	—	—
31. Premature birth ...	—	—	—
32. Congenital malformations, birth injuries etc. ...	2	—	2
33. Suicide ...	—	—	—
34. Road traffic accidents ...	—	—	—
35. Other violent causes ...	1	—	1
36. All other causes ...	4	1	5
ALL CAUSES ...	31	25	56

Notes on Vital Statistics.

Births.

The birth rate was 15·5, compared with 18·5 for the Administrative County, and 17·9 for England and Wales as a whole. In 1947 the rate was 10·1.

Deaths.

The death rate was 9·6, compared with 11·3 for the Administrative County, and 10·8 for England and Wales. This is a considerable improvement on last year's rate of 15·0.

Infantile Mortality.

This rate of 22 also shows an improvement on the 1947 figure of 31. Rates for the Administrative County, and for England and Wales were 39 and 34 respectively.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths from puerperal sepsis or other maternal causes.

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. Ambulance Service.

The district is served from the County Council's Depot at Keighley. Cases of infectious diseases are conveyed by the Isolation Hospital's ambulance.

2. Home Nursing.

Throughout the year Sister Herbert has undertaken the combined duties of home nurse and midwife, with some assistance towards the end of the year from Sister Foxton, of Steeton.

She has been very fully employed and her work is greatly appreciated.

3. Midwifery Service.

In addition to domiciliary confinements, accommodation has been provided for many patients at the St. John's Hospital, Keighley. Overcrowding and inability to obtain help during confinements still compels many patients to seek hospital accommodation when they might otherwise prefer to have their babies at home.

4. Home Help Service.

This has not been a success, and is unlikely to be whilst full employment for women exists in more attractive occupations.

Improved terms of service might produce more home helps and this would in turn reduce the demands for hospital accommodation, and the difficulties of many sick and aged people.

5. Health Visiting.

One whole-time Health Visitor has been employed in the district throughout the year, also undertaking the duties of school nurse.

During the year 1,685 visits were made, details of which are shown below :—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	91
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits to Infants :						
Under one year (new cases)	...	...	...	...	...	122
Under one year (others)	...	...	...	...	...	702
Visits to children 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	...	700
Visits to Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	145
Visits re Adoption	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other visits	...	...	...	...	...	11
Total						1685

6. Clinic Arrangements.

Ante-natal and Child Welfare Clinics are held at the Kirkgate Wesleyan School, but it has not been possible to arrange for a school clinic owing to staff and accommodation difficulties.

More suitable premises would permit this to be done, and a new clinic would be a great asset to the district.

The following attendances were made at the clinics during the year :

(a) Ante-Natal Clinic.	Ante-Natal. Post-Natal.	
Total number of women who attended during the year	...	...
	38	1
(b) Child Welfare Clinic.	Under 1 year. Over 1 year.	
Number of children attending during the year	...	...
	65	44

7. Tuberculosis.

There were 6 notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis during 1948 : 1 male and 5 females ; and 2 notifications of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Included in these notifications is one case from Howden Hall Hostel.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

The responsibility for providing diagnostic and treatment facilities for tuberculosis passed from the County Council to the Leeds Regional Hospital Board following the introduction of the National Health Service Act ; but the County Council still provide a health visitor, and the Dispensaries at Keighley and Skipton remain open.

The shortage of sanatorium beds remains, and cases recommended for treatment therein may have to wait some months before they can be admitted.

Action has been taken to assist the tuberculous with housing difficulties, and they are provided with ancillary benefits and rehabilitation as required.

8. Veneral Disease.

Notification of these diseases is not made to the Medical Officer of Health but the County Venereologist has, since the 1st July, been able to provide certain statistics. The number of cases from the district attending treatment centres during the half-year was 12. In eight cases the diagnosis was confirmed.

Facilities for diagnosis and treatment are available at the Keighley, Bradford and Leeds Hospitals; and the County Council employs a Social Worker to follow up cases and contacts when required.

9. Laboratory Services.

The Laboratory at County Hall, Wakefield, has continued to provide a service which, whilst entirely satisfactory in most respects, must often be at a disadvantage when specimens have to be sent by post. Arrangements have, therefore, been made with the Bradford Laboratory for the examination of certain specimens, including water and ice cream.

The assistance given by the Directors of both Laboratories has been greatly appreciated.

10. Special Clinics.

Ear, Nose and Throat and Orthopædic Clinics are held at the Skipton and District Hospital, attended by Specialists on the hospital staff, and to whom cases are referred by the school and child welfare centre medical officers.

Acknowledgement must also be made of the Hospital Committee's co-operation in providing X-ray, ultra-violet light and physiotherapy service.

The School Ophthalmologist has held clinics in Skipton every fortnight, and the majority of children referred to him have been found to require spectacles. These have been supplied free of cost.

It is a pleasure to report that two new clinics were established in Skipton towards the end of the year. These are for Speech Therapy and Child Guidance, and provide treatment never previously available in this area.

NOTIFICATION OF AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1948.

DISEASES NOTIFIED.	AGE GROUPS								Total cases notified.	Cases adm. to hospi- tal.	Total Deaths.
	Under 1 year	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25 and over.				Age unknown.
Scarlet Fever	...	—	3	9	16	14	2	2	—	46	—
Diphtheria	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	6	11	19	15	2	2	—	—	55	—
Whooping Cough	...	8	5	11	12	—	—	1	—	37	—

DISEASES NOTIFIED.	AGE GROUPS.						Total cases notified	Cases adm. to hospi- tal.	Total Deaths.	
	0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 and over.	Age unknown.				
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	2	—	—	3	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

11. Infectious Diseases.

Notification of Infectious Diseases received during 1948.

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	46
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever		...	...	...	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	Nil
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis : (a) respiratory			...	...	6
(b) other forms			...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	...	55
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	37
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		...	...	...	Nil
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	1
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	Nil
Malaria	...	...	...	...	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	Nil

Cases of Infectious Disease admitted to Hospital.

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	46
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever		...	...	...	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	Nil
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	Nil
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	1
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	Nil

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever cases occurred every month, the maximum being 7 in April. Almost all the 46 cases were of a mild type.

A few cases of measles occurred in the Spring. Although more prevalent in the Autumn, the total of 55 cases shows that the district did not experience the epidemic which occurred in the West Riding at that time.

Whooping Cough cases numbered 37, all, except two, occurring in the last three months of the year.

There were no deaths from either Scarlet Fever, Measles or Whooping Cough.

One death from Typhoid Fever is reported. The circumstances were unusual, and the diagnosis was based on the post-mortem findings. Typhoid germs were never isolated, nor Widal tests performed. Investigations as to the possible source of infection all proved negative, and there have been no cases in the district either before or since.

12. Diphtheria Immunisation.

From the information available, the position at the 31st December, 1948, was as follows :

		0 4 years.	5 14 years.
Estimated population	... ..	428	610
Number who has received completed course of immunisation...		179	24
Percentage Immunised	... ..	42 %	4 %

These figures are probably lower than the actual totals immunised owing to lack of recording, and chiefly in the 5 14 age group.

Although there was only one case of diphtheria during the year, a much higher percentage of children must be immunised before the position can be regarded as satisfactory.

13. Mental Health.

Of the 10 mental defectives in the district, 5 are under Statutory Supervision, none under Guardianship and 5 are in Institutions.

Great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the accommodation which is required for all types of mental defectives, for although some institutions have empty beds, their staffs are inadequate.

The Social Worker for Mental Health visits all defectives in the district, and patients discharged from mental hospitals as required.

The Duly Authorised Officer arranges for the admission of cases to mental hospitals.

14. Blind Persons Act.

There are 5 Blind Persons registered in the district. Supervision is given by the County Council's Teacher of the Blind.

15. Dental Treatment.

The County Council's Dental Officers visit the Silsden Schools. Their work must be confined to school children until additional staff and a central clinic can be provided.

16. Mass Radiography.

The West Riding Unit started operating in the late Summer and paid a short visit to Silsden ; 964 people, including 68 school children, had X-rays of the chest taken,

Water Supplies.

I am indebted to Mr. J. R. Wade, Surveyor and Waterworks Engineer, for the following particulars : The source of supply is from the Silsden Reservoir, owned by Bradford Corporation, and if this is insufficient an unlimited supply may be drawn by agreement with Bradford Corporation from the latter's Barden Conduit.

This water is treated at the Council's Waterworks, along with our own supply, before passing to the consumer.

The water is treated by Mechanical Filtration and is also Chlorinated, and after Filtration is of satisfactory quality.

During the year samples have been submitted periodically for Bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory in Bradford and for chemical analysis as follows :

Bacteriological Examination :

- | | |
|--|--|
| 7—Samples Raw Water before Treatment. | Results : 1—good.
6—unsatisfactory. |
| 7—Samples after Filtration and Chlorination. | Results : All satisfactory. |

Chemical Analysis :

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2—Samples after Filtration. | Results : Satisfactory. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|

Plumbo-Solvency.

Six samples have been submitted to the County Medical Officer for examination for Plumbo-Solvent action of the Water Supply and the results were as follows :

- | | |
|---|--|
| 4—Samples ... Nil. | |
| 1—Sample ... 1/15th, after standing in pipe all night. | |
| 1—Sample ... 1/36th, after standing in pipe for 30 minutes. | |

The number of dwellinghouses now supplied from the town's mains are :

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| (a) direct to the houses | ... | ... | ... | 1,670 |
| (b) by means of standpipes | ... | ... | ... | None |

The population supplied is approximately 5,500.

The number of houses not receiving a direct supply, mostly farm houses having their own piped supply, is fifty.

No extensions to Water Mains have been carried out during the year.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Rivers and Streams.

There has been no evidence of river or stream pollution brought to the attention of the Department during the year.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public or privately owned baths in this district.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Certain extensions have been carried out to the sewerage system in connection with the Council's current housing scheme. Although the bulk of the sewerage had been carried out prior to the site being purchased by the Council.

Owing to the continued rise in the quantity of sewage discharged at the Sewage Disposal Works certain alterations have been carried out to the plant, including the laying out of part of the ashes tip for use as a percolating filter. Difficulties do arise in connection with the treatment of the sewage owing to the fact that approximately one-third of the total flow is dyeworks effluent.

No complaints have been received from the West Riding Rivers Board regarding the quality of the effluent.

Sanitary Conveniences and Refuse Accommodation.

Number of Water Closets in premises, including houses	... ..	1,309
Number of Waste Water Closets	...	413
Number of Pail or Tub Closets	... ..	11
Number of Privies at farms where no sewer and/or water supply is reasonably available		73

Forty-two inspections were made regarding sanitary and refuse accommodation in connection with which the following improvements were effected :

- 9 Closets were reconstructed as W.C's.
- 6 Additional Closets were provided in existing property.
- 20 W.C's. were provided in new houses.
- 170 premises were provided with regulation Dust-bins in lieu of unsatisfactory refuse receptacles.

There remains, however, a proportionally large number of ashpits still in use throughout the district.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections.

Total inspections for nuisances : Dwellings	...	...	237
Others	...	...	79
Total nuisances found	...	...	282
Number abated	...	...	202
Inspections and re-visits for other Statutory purposes :			
Inspections	...	...	1,755
Re-visits	...	...	592
Number of Sanitary Improvements effected at premises controlled by Public Health and other Legislation			
	...		214
Number of interviews	...	...	243

Notices Served and Complied With.

			Notices Served.		Notices Complied With..	
			Informal.	Formal.	Informal.	Formal.
Public Health Acts	...	...	229	—	198	—
Housing Acts	...	...	43	—	37	—
Factories Acts	...	...	8	—	6	—
Milk and Dairies Order	...	...	—	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	1	—	1	—
Shops Act	...	...	2	—	2	—
Rats and Mice (Descruction Act			1	—	1	—

Housing.

1. General Condition.

(a) Total number of Houses in District	...	...	1,720
(c) Number of New Houses built in 1948	...	...	20

2. Overcrowding.

A glance at the Council's list of Housing Applicants reveals that many dwellings throughout the district are overcrowded although the Council were able to re-house some of the worst cases during the year.

Common Lodging Houses.

None in the District.

Inspection of Factories.

Premises.	Inspections.	Notices. Served.	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	58	5	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power	4	2	Nil
Other Premises under the Act ...	4	1	Nil

Defects found in Factories.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Number of defects Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Cases in which Prosecu- tions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences In- sufficient ...	5	4	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective, Not Separate for Sexes ...	1	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—

Moveable Dwellings.

There are no licensed sites for moveable dwellings within the district, although the Council are prepared to consider the licensing of a suitable site.

Action has recently been taken under the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, to secure the removal of a dwelling of this nature.

Outworkers.

Lists were submitted by three employers showing the employment of seven persons. In each case the premises were visited and one house was found to be so overcrowded as to be unsatisfactory.

Atmospheric Pollution.

Routine smoke observations have not been resumed, but visits have been paid to two boilerhouses during the year.

Supervision of Food Premises.

197 visits have been made to food preparing premises, including bakehouses and ice cream preparing premises. Particular attention has been paid to one ice cream factory which supplies a considerable proportion of ice cream consumed throughout the neighbouring district.

There are no basement bakehouses in the district.

Meat Supply.

Under the centralised slaughtering scheme all meat supplied to this district is distributed from Keighley Municipal Borough Abattoir where full inspection of all animals slaughtered is carried out. Numerous complaints of unsound food have been received and the necessary condemnation made.

Transport and handling of meat during the course of distribution to the retailer still leaves much to be desired and we look forward to the day when specially designed vehicles for this purpose are brought into use.

Milk Supply.**Production.**

There are 75 cow keepers in the district, with a total of 133 cowsheds, in which approximately 1,096 cows are milked. There has been a steady improvement in the standard of farm buildings, as many farmers, previously tenants, have purchased their holdings.

There are 5 farms in the district licensed by the West Riding County Council to produce "Tuberculin Tested Milk," and 16 licences for "Accredited Milk" are in force. There is no pasteurisation plant licensed in the district, and the bulk of the ungraded milk produced was taken to Bradford Co-operative Society's Dairy for heat treatment. There are 9 retailers in the district.

Milk Sampling.

No. obtained.	Grade.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
10	T.T.	9	1
41	Accredited	24	17
37	Ungraded	24	13
—	Pastuerised	—	—

ICE CREAM SAMPLING.

No. of Samples.	Grade:	I	II	III	IV
6	...	1	2	2	1

Offensive Trades.

One only in district—Fellmonger. No. of inspections made, 2.

Rodent Control.

A part-time rodent operative is employed on this work and numerous sources of infestation have been treated. In addition the sewer system has been treated, and a further test bait carried out with satisfactory results.

Amount of poison used—228 ozs.

Estimated Kill—596 rats.

Cleansing.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

This service is under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, who is responsible only for the Collection and Disposal of Household Refuse and Salvage. Street and Gully cleansing, Snow Removal and Street Gritting being controlled by the Council's Surveyor.

Generally this work has been carried out in a satisfactory manner and it has been possible to maintain a fortnightly collection throughout the inner district. There is no doubt, however, that the quantity and bulk of household refuse is increasing and this, together with the collection of salvage, tends to hinder regular collection, especially in view of difficulty in obtaining additional staff.

The collection of salvage has progressed satisfactorily and the amount collected continues to increase. A bonus scheme for the employees engaged on this work was introduced during the year.

The disposal of the refuse is on the controlled system of tipping, the refuse tip being located alongside the Council's Sewage Disposal Works.

